

CATALDO MISSION

Interstate 90, Cataldo

Dating from the 1850s, this is the oldest extant mission church in the Pacific Northwest. It was built by Jesuit missionaries in their efforts to convert the Coeur d'Alene Indians and was designed by Father Anthony Ravalli, a native of Italy. The impressive frame church is fronted with a Tuscan portico, above which is a baroque pediment decorated with a painted sunburst. The main altar, of wood painted to simulate marble, is attributed to Father Ravalli.